Created in 2012, the SACRe (Science, Arts, Creation, Research) Ph.D program fosters the emergence and development of unique projects that blend creation and research. The program is a result of the cooperation between six institutes which are full members or associate members of PSL: the Conservatoire national supérieur d’art dramatique (CNSAD: national theatre conservatory), Conservatoire national supérieur de musique et de danse de Paris (CNSMDP: national music and dance conservatory), École nationale supérieure des Arts décoratifs (EnsAD: national school of decorative arts), École nationale supérieure des métiers de l’image et du son (La fémis: national school for film), École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts (Beaux-Arts : national school for fine arts), and the École normale supérieure (ENS).

AN UNPRECEDENTED CREATION AND RESEARCH PH.D PROGRAMME

The SACRe doctoral program seeks to be a doorway into exploration of the common ground between research and creation, serving as a vehicle for creators and researchers to invent together.

Interdisciplinary in spirit, SACRe seeks to stimulate exchange and synergies among the arts, engineering, the hard sciences, the humanities and social science.

The SACRe Ph.D consists:
— for artists and designers, of the creation of works, objects or dispositifs, and the redaction of a portfolio, closely associated with a reflexive approach based on various theoretical and scientific fields ;
— for theorists, of the production of a written thesis and of a portfolio closely associated with a creative approach.

Dissertations are directed by one or two Ph.D supervisors and by an artist, all from the SACRe laboratory (EA 7410), from the Ecole doctorale 540 or from the Université PSL.

OPPORTUNITIES

At the close of the doctoral program, students receive the Université PSL SACRe Ph.D, in fields of specialization such as visual arts, film, musical composition, design, or theater.

Career opportunities:
— International artistic career in contact with the world of research;
— Teaching and research (art schools, universities);
— Working in fields of cultural innovation;
— Positions in public and private Research & Development centers.

SACRe KEY FIGURES (beginning of 2019)

— 51 doctoral students from a variety of backgrounds: artists, designers, and theorists in humanities, social science, or hard science.
— 24 dissertations defended since the program’s inception.
Unique education

— **Specific instruction** is conducted in a SACRe institute. Each institute arranges the facilities, the organization, and the functioning of the program for the Ph.D candidates.

— **A SACRe seminar** (12 sessions) explores the thematic and epistemological questions for all Ph.D candidates admitted to the program.

— **Specific instruction to be chosen** within the ED 540 and the PSL offers.

Ph.D funding

— Ph.D candidates can receive a PSL doctoral contract for a period of three years.

— **Specific types of support** under certain terms, for events related to Ph.D candidates’ doctoral research: support for artistic productions and for scientific events.

— **Call for projects from the EA 7410** for the development of transversal projects of research in the arts.

Ph.D defense

The thesis defense for Ph.D candidates in the arts is based on the presentation of the works completed by the Ph.D candidate in diverse forms (exhibition, performance, concert, projection, event, or prototype) and a portfolio which explains the sources and experiences of the research.

The thesis defense for **theorists** is based on the presentation of the written thesis and of the practical work carried out within the specific framework of this Ph.D.

ADMISSIONS

**Prerequisites for applying**

Diploma conferring a Master’s degree (or equivalent) in France or abroad. No age limit. For foreign students, a C1-level in French is required.

Artist candidates must be able to present a portfolio showing evidence of actual artistic work.

**Selection procedure**

Applications open around springtime each year. Candidates may not compete for admission more than three times in all.

Recruitment takes place in two phases:

1. Application to the institute selected by the candidate depending on the topic of his or her project. Following a selection process, each institute decides on the admissibility of the candidate(s) selected.

2. Final admission is then pronounced by the full SACRe-PSL jury in July, for enrollment at PSL University in the 540 Doctoral School.

EXAMPLES OF DEFENDED DISSERTATIONS

— **SACRe-CNSAD**, Lena Paugam, “To overtake the present. Actor’s desire and the dramaturgies of sideration”

— **SACRe-CNSMDP**, Lara Morciano, “Writing of sound, time and space in the interaction between instruments and synchronous digital devices”

— **SACRe-La fémis**, Esther Jacopin, “Stereoscopic continuity : correspondances and discontinuities”


— **SACRe-EnsAD**, Emile de Visscher, “Technophanic ManuFactures. A research through design, exploring manufacturing processes’ technical, aesthetic and symbolic regimes, stimulating collective understanding and participation.”

— **SACRe-ENSBA**, Elizaveta Konovalova, “This doctorate has been a precious time in many ways. A series of beautiful encounters, an opening to other practices and forms of thought, a place for reflection and re-invention, almost, of my personal artistic practice, an adventure, too. A precious time to have time, precisely. A formative moment, no doubt. I feel fortunate to have been able to be part of the SACRe program.”

More information

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Contact us

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